



# Connecticut Communities Challenge

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# AGENDA

- Overview of Program
- Timeline and Process to Apply
- Q&A

*DISCLAIMER: The information provided herein is a summary of publicly available documents regarding the CT Communities Challenge Program (CCC) and should not be relied upon in lieu of the formal Notice of Funding Availability and Application Form, which can be found on the CCC website.*





# ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- Three categories of eligible applicants:
  1. Municipalities
  2. Economic Development Agencies
  3. Regional Councils of Government
- Private and not-for-profit partnerships are encouraged
- Eligible applicants may submit more than one application for various projects

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# FUNDING DISTRIBUTION

- DECD will award competitive grants of \$1M - \$10M each (up to \$55M available)
- 50% of funds will be targeted to distressed municipalities

## *What are distressed municipalities?*

The 25 municipalities in the state most in need of state assistance, based on statistical indicators measuring the fiscal capacity of each municipality including tax base, personal income of residents, and residents' need for public services.

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# ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

Eligible projects will:

1. Improve the vibrancy, livability, convenience, and equity of communities and main streets across CT
2. Help further the goal of creating 3,000 new jobs

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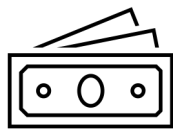
# ELIGIBLE USES OF FUNDS

## How can the funds be used?

- The majority of grant funds should be used for construction- and renovation-related hard costs
- A limited portion of funds may be used for soft costs: design and engineering-related costs, land acquisition, project management, administrative and DECD's legal expenses to prepare the Contract
- Programming is NOT an eligible use of funds

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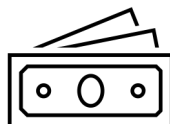




## PROJECT CATEGORIES

- **Transit-oriented development** that densifies commercial and/or residential land uses near transit hubs
- **Downtown / major hub development** that improves or reuses existing property (Brownfield remediation may be a component)
- **Essential infrastructure** that facilitates future development
- **New housing** to support affordability and local workforce
- **Mobility improvements** that increase connectivity to transit, including pedestrian and bicycle improvements
- **Public space improvements** that provide amenities to the community, including open spaces and public art projects

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**Round 1 examples** are available on the State of Connecticut's CCC website:

<https://portal.ct.gov/Office-of-the-Governor/News/Press-Releases/2022/04-2022/Governor-Lamont-Announces-45-Million-in-Funding-for-12-Projects-That-Will-Boost-Community-Vibrancy>

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# MATCH REQUIREMENT

- **Match Requirement:** the minimum match requirement for distressed municipalities is 25%, and for other municipalities is 50%.
- In-kind contributions do NOT count toward the match requirement (except land)
- In general, contributed soft costs will be accepted for the match requirement, but not in-kind staff time
- Debt cannot count toward the match requirement
- Local, federal (ARPA) or private dollars can count toward the match.

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# REVIEW PROCESS

Eligible applicants submit applications via unique sharepoint link



DECD reviews applications



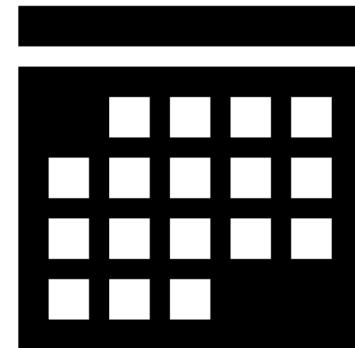
DECD Commissioner chooses awardees

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# TIMELINE

Application <b>OPENS</b>	Monday, August 1, 2022
<b>DEADLINE</b> to submit applications	Friday, October 7, 2022
Announcement of Awards	December 2022 (tentative)





# HOW TO APPLY

*Applications are now open and available on the CT Communities Challenge website: [https://portal.ct.gov/DECD/Content/Business-Development/05\\_Funding\\_Opportunities/CT-Communities-Challenge-Grant](https://portal.ct.gov/DECD/Content/Business-Development/05_Funding_Opportunities/CT-Communities-Challenge-Grant)*

## **Suggested application process:**

1. Review Notice of Funding Availability document in detail
  2. Download copy of fillable PDF and prepare responses
- Submit application materials via unique sharepoint link (email [CTCommunitiesChallenge@ct.gov](mailto:CTCommunitiesChallenge@ct.gov) to request link)

## **If you have questions about the application, there are several options:**

- Review FAQ page of website
- Email [CTCommunitiesChallenge@ct.gov](mailto:CTCommunitiesChallenge@ct.gov)



# QUESTIONS

- **Type** your questions in the chat or Q&A module.
- **Email** questions to [CTCommunitiesChallenge@ct.gov](mailto:CTCommunitiesChallenge@ct.gov)

